

skins of the fox and a kind of marten, and
cherry sticks
for pipes.

Certainly the women are very industrious,
rising at
daylight to churn, working all day, weaving in
the intervals, and late at night boiling the butter in
their big
caldrons. They make their own clothes and
those of
their husbands and children, except the felt
coats, sewing
with needles like skewers and very coarse
loosely-twisted
cotton thread. They sew backwards, *i.e.*
from left to
right, and seem to use none but a running
stitch. Every-
where they have been delighted with gifts
of English
needles and thread, steel thimbles, and
scissors.

When it is remembered that, in-
addition to all the
" household " avocations which I have
enumerated, they
pitch and strike tents, do much of the
loading and un-
loading of the baggage, and attend
faithfully to their
own offspring and to that of their flocks and
herds, it will
be realised that the life of a Bakhtiari wife is
sufficiently
laborious.

We were to have left that burning valley
at 11 P.M.,
and when I returned at dusk from the fort
the tents
were folded and the loads ready for a
moonlight march,
but Yahya Khan sent to say that for the
ostensible
reason of the path being greatly obstructed
by trees we
could not start till daylight. Later he
came with a
number of tribesmen and haggled noisily for
two hours
about the payment of an escort, and the sheep
a day which
it would require. It was not a comfortable
night, for the

sand-flies were legion, and we did not get off till 4.30, when we were joined by Yahya Khan and his son, who accompanied us to the Pul-i-Hawa.

The path from Kalla Khanabad runs at a considerable elevation on wooded hillsides and slopes of shelving rock, only descending to cross some curious ribs of conglomerate and the streams which flow into the Ab-i-